

Application No.: 10/698662

Docket No.: TOW-048

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the "AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS" section submitted on June 14, 2006 with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell comprising:

~~an a plurality of~~ electrolyte electrode ~~assembly-assemblies~~ each including an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte interposed between said anode and said cathode; and
a plurality of resinous passage members and ~~a metal member-portion~~s combined together such that said metal ~~member-portion~~s ~~evers-cover~~ said resinous passage members,

wherein a coolant flow field electrically insulated from said electrolyte electrode ~~assembly-assemblies~~ is defined by said resinous passage members;

a coolant is supplied to said coolant flow field for cooling said electrolyte electrode ~~assembly-assemblies~~; and

each of said metal portions comprises a contact portion contacting one of said electrolyte electrode assemblies and an outer portion remote from said contact portion;

electric energy generated in said electrolyte electrode ~~assembly-assemblies~~ is serially collected at said contact portion; ~~and transmitted through a surface of said metal member around said resinous passage member, and collected from said electrolyte electrode assembly~~

an outer portion of one of said metal portions electrically contacts an outer portion of another of said metal portions, said another metal portion is adjacent to said one metal portion on a side opposite to a contact surface of said contact portion of said one metal portion, for serially transmitting said electric energy.

2. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein each of said metal ~~member-portion~~s is a cladding member formed of a stainless steel member and a copper member,

at least a surface of each of said metal ~~member-portion~~s exposed to a reactant gas, or said surface of each of said metal ~~member-portion~~s around said coolant flow field is gold plated.

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3. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, comprising separators for sandwiching said electrolyte electrode ~~assembly~~assemblies, each of said separators including one of said resinous passage members and one of said metal portions~~member~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein each of said metal member portions includes a copper member and a foamed metal member attached to said copper member, and said foamed metal member is formed by impregnating a metal fiber with resin.

5. (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 4, wherein a surface of said foamed metal member exposed to the outside is gold plated.

6. (Original) A fuel cell stack formed by stacking a plurality of fuel cells each comprising:

an electrolyte electrode assembly including an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte interposed between said anode and said cathode; and

a resinous passage member and a metal member combined together such that said metal member covers said resinous passage member,

wherein a coolant flow field electrically insulated from said electrolyte electrode assembly is defined by said resinous passage member;

a coolant is supplied to said coolant flow field for cooling said electrolyte electrode assembly;

electric energy generated in said electrolyte electrode assembly is serially transmitted through a surface of said metal member around said resinous passage member, and collected from said electrolyte electrode assembly;

said metal member is a cladding member formed of a stainless steel member and a copper member;

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said stainless steel member is in contact with said electrolyte electrode assembly; and
said surface of said metal member around said coolant flow field is a surface of said
copper member, and curved away from said electrolyte electrode assembly outwardly, said fuel
cells being electrically connected in series through said surface of said copper member.